IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) A paper stock composition comprising:

alkyl ketene dimer in an amount of 1-20 dry lbs/ton of stock;

an acrylic acid containing material in an amount of [[10]] 35-40 dry lbs/ton of the stock;

a crosslinking agent in an amount sufficient to crosslink the acrylic acid containing material, the crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of ammonium oxide, calcium oxide, magnesium stearate, isostearate, calcium stearate, stannous oxide, tungsten oxide, titanium oxide, zinc octoate, aluminum stearate, aluminum oxide, zinc salts of fatty acids, zirconium oxide, calcium isosterate, calcium salts of fatty acids, magnesium salts of fatty acids, and aluminum salts of fatty acids; and

wood fibers.

49. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, further comprising akylene succinic anhydride.

50. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, further comprising starch.

51. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, wherein the wood fibers comprise recycled fibers.

52. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, wherein the wood fibers comprise virgin fibers.

53. (Previously Presented) The composition claim 48, further comprising a a polymerizable cationic composition.

54. (Previously Presented) The composition of any of claim 48, wherein the acrylic acid containing material is selected from the group consisting of homopolymers or copolymers of acrylic acid.

55. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, wherein the at least one alkyl ketene dimer is at least one selected from the group consisting of:

octyl, decyl, dodecyl, tetradecyl, hexadecyl, octadecyl, eicosyl, docosyl, tetracosyl, phenyl, benzyl, beta-naphthyl and cyclohexyl ketene dimers;

ketene dimers prepared from montanic acid, naphthenic acid, $\Delta^{9,10}$-decylenic acid, $\Delta^{9,10}$-dodecylenic acid, palmitoleic acid, oleic acid, ricinoleic acid, linolenic acid, and eleostearic acid; and

ß-lactones; and

ketene dimers prepared from naturally occurring mixtures of fatty acids.

56. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, further comprising ammonium hydroxide.

57. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, wherein at least one component of the composition is cationic.

58. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 57, wherein the cationic component is the alkyl ketene dimer.

59. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 57, wherein the cationic component is the acrylic acid containing material.

60. (Previously Presented) A method of making paper comprising:

providing the paper stock composition of claim 48 in a headbox, wherein the alkyl ketene dimer is present in an amount of not more than 10 dry lbs/ton of stock.

61. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the paper being made is selected from the group consisting of Kraft, linerboard and medium.

62. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 60, further comprising adding a starch containing component to the furnish.

63. (Previously Presented) A furnish comprising the paper composition of claim 48 in an excess of water.

64. (Previously Presented) A method of making paper comprising adding to a furnish the composition of claim 48.